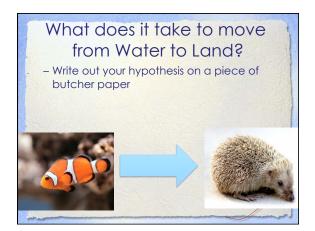
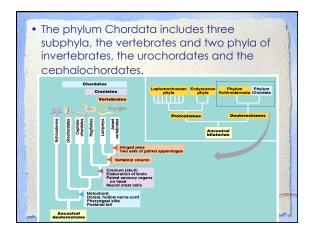
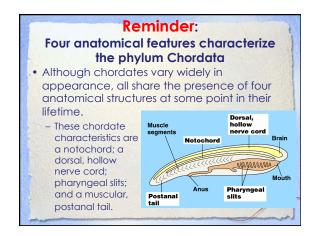
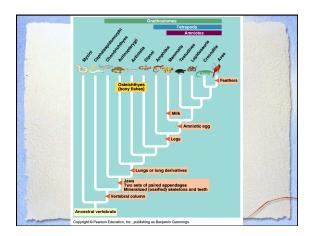
Fish & Shark Notes TOC#\_\_\_\_



## Vertebrates Vertebrates include mammals, birds, lizards, snakes, turtles, amphibians, and the various classes of fishes. They share several unique features including a backbone, a series of vertebrae. The vertebrates belong to one of the two major phyla in the Deuterostomia, the chordates.





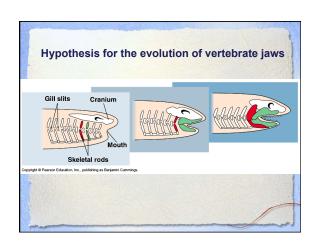


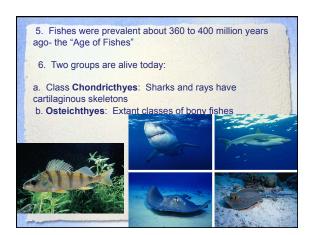
# Evolutionary Progression • A comparison of gnathostomes (jawed) and agnathans (jawless) shows that: 1. The brain and cranium evolved first in the vertebrate lineage. 2. This was followed by the vertebral column. 3. The jaws, ossified skeleton, and paired appendages evolved later.

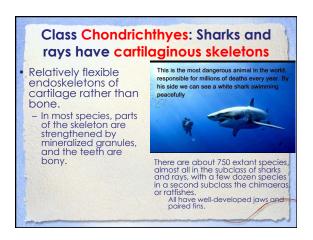
Zoology

Fish & Shark Notes TOC#

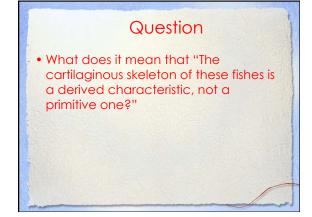
# Major evolutionary breakthroughs: 1. Jaws - Jaws, with the help of teeth, enable the animal to grip food items firmly and slice them up. • Opens up new food options 2. Paired fins were - Paired fins, along with the tail, enable fishes to maneuver accurately while swimming. • With these adaptations, many fish species were active predators, allowing for the diversification of both lifestyles and nutrient sources.







## The Structure of Chondrichthyes • The cartilaginous skeleton of these fishes is a derived characteristic, not a primitive one. • The ancestors of Chondrichthyes had bony skeletons. • The cartilaginous skeleton evolved secondarily. • During the development of most vertebrates, the skeleton is first cartilaginous and then becomes ossified as hard calcium phosphate matrix replaces the rubbery matrix of cartilage.



Zoology

## A Sharks Senses

- Acute senses are adaptations that go along with the active, carnivorous lifestyle of
  - Sharks have sharp vision but cannot distinguish colors.
  - Their acute olfactory sense (smelling) occurs in a pair of nostrils.
  - Sharks can detect electrical fields, including those generated by the muscle contractions of nearby prey, through patches of specialized skin pores.
  - The **lateral line system**, a row of microscopic organs sensitive to pressure changes, can detect low frequency vibrations.
  - In sharks, the whole body transmits sound to the hearing organs of the inner ear.

## Reproduction

- Shark eggs are fertilized internally.
  - Males transfer sperm via claspers on their pelvic fins to the reproductive tract of the female.
  - Oviparous sharks encase their eggs in protective cases and lay them outside the mother's body. • These hatch months later as juveniles.
  - Ovoviviparous sharks retain fertilized eggs in the
    - The embryo completes development in the uterus, nourished by the egg yolk.
  - A few sharks are **viviparous**, providing nutrients through a placenta to the developing offspring.

http://dsc.discovery.com/tv-shows/shark-week/videos/shark-reproduction-

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## Rays

- Rays are closely related to sharks, but they have adopted a very different lifestyle.
  - Most rays are flattened bottom dwellers that crush mollusks and crustaceans in their jaws.
  - The enlarged pectoral fins of rays are used like wings to propel the animal through the water.
  - The tail of many rays is whiplike and may bear venomous barbs for defense against threats.



### Osteichthyes: The extant classes of bony fishes are the ray-finned fishes, the lobe-finned fishes, and the lungfishes

- Bony fishes are the most numerous group of vertebrates, both in individuals and in species (about 30,000 species).
  - They range in size from 1 cm to more than 6 m.
  - They are abundant in the seas and in nearly every freshwater habitat.
- Traditionally, all bony fishes were combined into a single class, **Osteichthyes**, but most systematists now recognize *three* extant classes: the ray-finned fishes, the lobe-finned fishes, and the lungfishes.

### Structure

- Nearly all bony fishes have an ossified endoskeleton with a hard matrix of calcium phosphate.
- The skin is often covered with thin, flattened bony scales.
- Like sharks, fishes can detect water disturbances through the lateral line system, part of which is visible as a row of tiny pits along either side of the body.

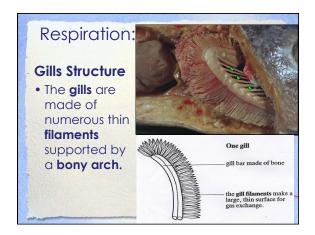


- Bony fishes breathe by drawing water over four or five pairs of gills located in chambers covered by a protective flap, the operculum.
  - Water is drawn into the mouth, through the pharynx, and out between the gills by movements of the operculum and muscles surrounding the gill chambers.

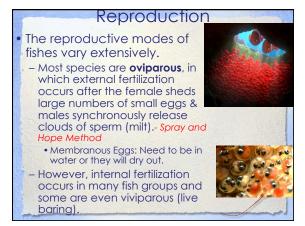


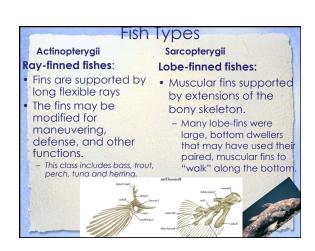
Operculum

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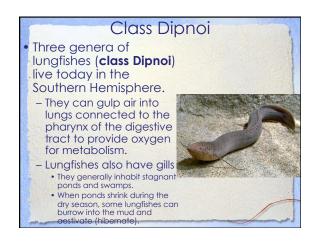


# Adaptations of the gills for efficient gas exchange • Large surface area: volume - allows more diffusion of gases • Permeable membranes - allows gases to diffuse through tissues • Thin (flattened cells) - short diffusion distance • Good vascular (blood) supply – - maintains concentration gradients









Zoology